Campus, Bangalore and Former Director, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

(v) Prof. S. Brenner, FRS was prevented by illness from attending as a member of the committee but gave written evidence.

(c) The conclusions and major recommendations of the said committee are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

Conclusions and Recommendations

Our conclusions can best be formulated by answering the questions:

(i) What would Homi Bhabha have said about the state of TIFR at present?

(ii) What would he have recommended for the future?

Concerning (i), he would undoubtedly have been excited about many of the areas of science being pursued at present. However, he would have been disappointed by the slippage in the international league in some areas. He would have been particularly concerned at the shortage of talented people joining the Institute. However, he would have been proud of his successors in authority for their undoubted skill in maintaining the very presence of TIFR (and, indeed, enabling it to grow) in a world where 'relevance' and 'wealth-creation' have had serious repercussions for similar institutions. Homi Bhabha would, we feel, have gone along with our own recommendations.

In the preceding text we have underlined specific - and in some cases detailed - recommendations. All are important but here we indicate the major ones.

Major Recommendations

1. Fundamental work in radio astronomy, molecular biology, solid state physics and computer science should be supported and augmented.

2. The Mumbai Molecular Biology work should be maintained and augmented and the Director and Council should make their agreement with this recommendation widely known, as a matter of urgency.

3. The pure mathematics group should be strongly supported and consideration given to merging pure and applied mathematics and theoretical computer science.

4. The 'purpose of TIFR' should be widely circulated.

5. A search Committee should be formed, as a matter of urgency, to seek candidates for the post of Director. The search should start well before the termination of Professor Singh's directorship.

6. Improvements should be made to the Administrator Office.

7. A committee should be formed to examine (i) promotion norms, (ii) the balance between term and permanent appointments and (iii) possibilities of enhancing recruitment worldwide, to achieve and maintain a senior faculty of the highest possible distinction.

8. Research should be organised in three individual schools, in:

   Mathematical Sciences
   Physics and Astronomy
   Biological and Chemical Sciences

9. Action should be taken to improve technology transfer.

10. Science education and popularisation should be given a higher profile.

Construction of Over Bridges

2337. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of nine Railway Over Bridges in NCT of Delhi required under MRTS Project and to link these to the proposed Express Highway;

(b) the details of budget provision made during 1997-98 for the construction of these Over Bridges; and

(c) the details of time-schedule for the completion of these Bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Rate of Poverty

2338. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARTI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the highest among the other